

1983

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9TH STRATEGIC RECONNAISSANCE WING

Date (1983)

1 Jan Headquarters SAC activated Detachment 5 at Patrick AFB, Florida (previously OL-LF)

6 Jan A Beale KC-135N lost an engine panel during a flight with no reported damage.

7 Jan Headquarters SAC dropped a proposal to realign the OSRW overseas detachments.

14 Jan Maj Edwin Siers replaced Maj Fred M. Jordan as commander of the 9th Reconnaissance Technical Squadron

17 Jan Col Richard L. Thompson became the deputy commander for maintenance.

1 Feb Headquarters SAC instituted a change in the OSRW assigned operational capability (OOC).

1-4 Feb The 14th Air Division conducted a staff assistance visit to the 9th Wing as a follow-up to the October 1982 management effectiveness inspection.

4 Feb The Social Actions Office at Beale earned the SAC Class 1 Best of the year for 1982.

5-7 Feb The 9th Wing conducted a staff assistance visit to Detachment 5 to ensure proper procedures for permanency had been taken.

17-20 Feb Representative C. W. "Bill" Young, a Florida Republican, visited Beale for an SF-71 orientation flight.

22 Feb Headquarters SAC awarded the 100th Security Police Squadron the Col John R. Luper Trophy as the best small security police unit in SAC for 1982.

22 Feb The Detachment 4 mission at RAF Mildenhall, U.K. changed as the H-2R mission was taken over by the 17th Reconnaissance Wing at RAF Alconbury, U.K. The H-2R was withdrawn from Detachment 4.

23-24 Feb The 9th Wing Commander and staff conducted a staff assistance visit to Detachment 2 at Osan AB, Korea.

28 Feb The Commander of the 1st Reconnaissance Detachment 1 at Iadana AB, Japan for staff assistance.

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4 Mar A change in the SR-71 mission took place at Detachment 4, RAF Mildennall, U.K.

4 Mar A 9th Wing T-38 on a flight from Reale AFB ingested ice into its engines causing a minor flight mishap.

4 Mar Maintenance technicians assisted in the recovery of an air aborted SR-71 at Loring AFB, Maine.

7 Mar The 9th Logistics Plans, Programs and Mobility Division of Maintenance won the Harry D. Hayes award for best in SAC for 1982.

9 Mar A U-2R on a landing roll at Reale experienced a minor mishap.

10 Mar The 9th Wing completed a feasibility study on the capabilities and limitations of the KC-10 in assuming all or part of the wing's SR-71 refueling operations.

15 Mar The Air Force inactivated the 100th Air Refueling Wing and its associated base support units and consolidated the mission with that of the 9th SRW. The Air Force also activated the 9th Combat Support Group and the 9th Services, Transportation, Supply, Security Police and Civil Engineering Squadrons.

15 Mar The SR-71 aircrew training mission moved to the 4029th Strategic Reconnaissance Training Squadron from the 1st SRS.

21-24 Mar A KC-10 tanker from the 2nd Bombardment Wing at Barksdale AFB, Louisiana deployed to Reale for refueling tests with the SR-71.

25 Mar The Air Force's first TP-12 trainer model arrived at Reale to be used in the 4029th SRS TP-12 aircrew training program.

March The 9th Wing Intelligence Deputate was named Outstanding Intelligence Unit in Fifteenth Air Force for 1982.

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31 Mar

The 9th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing ended the quarter with 450 officers, 3135 enlisted airmen and 378 civilians for a total of 3,972 assigned personnel. The Keale AFB population, including tenants, totalled 4,857 people. The Wing had spent \$15,488,000 or 51 percent of the annual budget on 16 March.

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CHRONOLOGY

<u>Date(1983)</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Page</u>
<u>April</u>		
1	Alliance Properties, Inc (ALLPRO) replaced M&M Services on the Base Housing Maintenance Contract. Legal complications ensued	
9-10	Speaker of the US House of Representatives Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill toured Beale with a congressional delegation of 35 persons	
12-13	Two SR-71 search and rescue sorties scoured mountains in a search for a crashed B-52 from Nellis AFB, Nv.	
13	A 99th SRS II-2 flew a Rusy Playmate Search and Rescue mission to look for a downed B-52.	
17	A Cypriot English language newspaper erroneously reported the deployment of a TR-1A to Detachment 3 at Akrotiri, Cyprus.	
18	Headquarters SAC announced the award of the eighth Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (AFOUA) to the 9th SRW for 1 Jul 81-30 Jun 82.	
19	Beale AFB conducted a Broken Arrow major accident response exercise (MARE) that simulated a crashed KC-97 carrying a nuclear weapon.	
19	Detachment 2 at Osan AB, Korea experienced a peculiar equipment problem.	
20	A 99th SRS U-2R flew a special domestic mission.	
25	The Base Environmental Protection Committee discussed potential chemical pollution on Beale.	
25-29	The 14th Air Division conducted a Staff Assistance Visit (SAV) to the 9th Wing.	
25-3 May	The 9th Wing Commander and selected staff members visited Detachments 3 and 4 in Europe.	
<u>May</u>		
1	Beale's 7th Missile Warning Squadron (MWS) transferred from SAC to the new Space Command.	

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May (contd)

- 2 Maj Kenneth L. Stanford became the first permanent commander at Detachment 5, Patrick AFB, FL.
- 5 KC-135Q #580129 was struck by lightning on a routine flight, but landed without incident.
- 9 Col John A. Anderson replaced Col John T. Dyer as the commander of the USAF Hospital, Beale.
- 14-15 The 9th SRW sponsored the Blackbird Reunion of current and former SR-71 and U-2 personnel at the MGM Grand Hotel in Reno, Nv.
- 16-27 The Deputy Commander for Maintenance conducted a staff assistance visit to Detachments 1 and 2 in the Pacific.
- 17 Beale AFB conducted a MARE involving a mass casualty where a fuel truck collided with a loaded passenger bus.
- 19-23 The 9th Wing deployed a KC-135Q, SR-71 and U-2 to Randolph AFB, Texas for a static display.
- 20 Detachment 3 flew a successful Olive Tree mission following a succession of difficulties.
- 23 The Air Force's second TR-1B, a two-seat trainer model arrived at Beale.
- 24 Disaster Preparedness personnel completed an Olympic Race aircraft decontamination on a U-2.
- 27 The first use of a KC-10 Extender to refuel an operational SR-71 reconnaissance mission took place.

June

- 1 Maj Donald E. Haslam replaced Lt Col Kevin T. Hegarty as commander of the 9th Organizational Maintenance Squadron.
- 10 The Air Force Audit Agency completed the formal report of a T-38 operations and training audit.
- 16 Headquarters SAC directed the wing to purchase anti-G suits for all T-38 pilots.

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June (contd)

- 18 Beale AFB hosted the annual open house with static displays, bands, refreshments and flybys.
- 21 A T-38 painting facility opened in SR-71 Shelter #126.
- 23-24 A Short Sprint local exercise took place in conjunction with SAC's Exercise Global Shield 83.
- 23-30 The 9th SRW and Beale AFB participated in SAC's worldwide Exercise Global Shield 83. Local involvement consisted of a battle staff exercise with very limited exercise flying.
- 24 Detachment 5 flew a Global Shield U-2R sortie.
- 25 A wing U-2 performed a flyby of the Truckee, California air show.
- 27 Col David H. Pinsky replace Col Lonnie L. Liss as 9SRW vice commander.
- 27 A SAC coordinated reconnaissance mission took place at Detachment 1.
- 28 A KC-135Q blew a tire upon landing but completed the roll-out with no further problems.
- 29 Headquarters SAC reduced the KC-135Q flying hour allocation due to decreased mission tasking.
- 30 The 9th SRW obligated \$23,731,900 or 74 percent of the FY83 budget (just below the 75 percent target ceiling) to remain in excellent fiscal shape.
- Beale AFB had an assigned total of 553 officers (555 authorized), 3,803 enlisted airmen (3,715 authorized) and 554 civilians (560 authorized).

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<u>Date (1983)</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Page</u>
<u>July</u>		
2 Jul-19 Aug	The 9th SRW deployed a U-2R on short notice contingency location in support of Senior Look II tasking.	
8-10	One wing U-2R and a support KC-135Q tanker deployed to Jackson, Mississippi for a static display at an air show.	
9-30	The 9th SRW participated in the first operational testing of the Advanced Aperture Synthetic Radar System (ASARS) at Detachment 4.	
12	A 9th SRW T-38 on a normal training mission experienced a major accident.	
14-18	One SR-71 and KC-135Q deployed to Payne Field, Washington for a static display at the Boeing production facility.	
18	A controlled burn grass fire on base got out of control. It destroyed the roof structure and caused damage to the base reservoir.	
18	Lt Colonel Alan E. Cirino assumed command of the 1st Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron as Lt Colonel Eldon W. Joersz was reassigned.	
21-22	The SAC Inspector General team conducted a Management Effectiveness (MEI) inspection at Detachment 3.	
22	Colonel Thomas S. Pugh, then the 9th SRW commander, was reassigned to 14th Air Division and Colonel David H. Pinsky, then Vice Commander, assumed temporary command of the wing.	
24	A civilian protest at Greennam Common, England during the International Air Tattoo air show ended with paint splattered on a Detachment 4 SR-71.	
27	The first Major Accident Response Exercise of the quarter was conducted. The exercise simulated an explosion and fire on a parked KC-135Q tanker.	

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August

- 3-5 Brigadier General (Ret) Charles "Chuck" Yeager, the first man to break the sound barrier visited Beale for orientations and a flight in the SR-71B.
- 4 Colonel George V. Freese arrived on station and assumed command of the 9th SRW in place of the departed Colonel Pugh.
- 16 A host - tenant agreement was finalized between Detachment 5 and Patrick AFB, Florida.
- 16 The first of ten Giant Clipper missions launched from Beale was flown successfully.
- 17 The first U-2R to come off a production line since 1969 was delivered to the 9th SRW.
- 17-19 Lt General Lawrence A. Skantze, Deputy Chief of Staff USAF for Research and Development, visited Beale for briefings and a flight in the SR-71B.
- 18 House of Representatives Majority Leader Jim Wright and a Congressional delegation visited Beale for briefings and static displays of wing aircraft.
- 21 A U-2R from Beale flew a mission that surveyed the Galveston, Texas area to assess the damages inflicted by Hurricane Alicia.
- 22 The second Major Accident Response Exercise of the quarter simulated the crash of a C-141 with nuclear weapons onboard.
- 25 The 9th SRW received the National Safety Council Award of Honor for 1982.
- 25 Aug-2 Sep Tisch-Avnet Productions, a movie company visited Beale to film ground and flight footage of the U-2s at Beale for a movie entitled "Air Force".

September

- 1 The 9th Reconnaissance Technical Squadron initiated a new manning assistance request to alleviate 404X0 manning shortages.
- 8 Colonel David E. Volz replaced Colonel Fred A. Bissinger, who retired, as the new Deputy Commander for Resource Management.

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September (cont'd)

- 16 Gavin Mandery, a local civilian, received the Exceptional Service Award. This prestigious honor had been awarded only to four other individuals 35 years.
- 19 The wing deployed a single U-2R and one KC-135Q with support equipment to Langley, Virginia for a static display.
- 20-21 A 9th SRW SR-71 air aborted into Fairchild AFB, Washington and the wing deployed a KC-135Q tanker with support personnel and equipment to repair the stricken Blackbird.
- 23 The annual off-base civilian disaster exercise took place as a simulated T-38 accident tested combined civilian and Air Force response.
- 28 The final Major Accident Response Exercise of the quarter evaluated the response to a simulated aircraft accident involving nuclear weapons.

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<u>October</u>		
1	OL-AY, Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center (AFOTEC) activated at Beale.	
3-7	Civil Engineering and Services Management Assistance Team (CESMAT) visited 9th Civil Engineering and 9th Services Squadrons.	
17-11 Nov	Tasking increased due to Urgent Fury operations in support of U.S. rescue mission in Grenada.	
20	The first Short Sprint Exercise of the quarter tested the wing's aircraft generation capabilities.	
22-25	One wing U-2R deployed to Mather AFB, Ca for a static display.	
24-4 Nov	Brig Gen Jesse S. Hocker, 14th Air Division Commander led a 14th AD Staff Assistance visit to Detachment 4 at RAF Mildenhall, U.K.	
24-23 Nov	A 9th Wing TR-1A deployed to the 17th Reconnaissance Wing at RAF Alconbury, UK to alleviate an aircraft shortage.	
26	The first major accident response exercise (MARE) of the quarter was held.	
<u>November</u>		
1-2	The 9th Wing held the Senior Staff Officers Orientation Course with staff officers and civilian equivalents from Headquarters SAC, Air Force Intelligence and the Defense Intelligence Agency in attendance.	
8	A 9th Wing SF-71 aborted into Fallon Naval Air Station, Nevada. The wing deployed resources necessary for the retrieval of the plane.	

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November (cont'd)

- 10 A KC-135Q tanker crew from the 9th SRW received awards as best Air Force active duty refueling unit and best tanker crew in SAC following annual SAC Bombing and Navigation Competition.
- 12-14 The wing deployed one SR-71 and one U-2R to March AFB, CA for a static display.
- 14-18 The 14th Air Division conducted a staff assistance visit at Beale AFB. During the visit, a Short Sprint Exercise was conducted.
- 15 The second MARE of the quarter was held in conjunction with the 14AD staff assistance visit. The exercise scenario consisted of a bomb threat and explosion at the Beale hospital.
- 18 A U-2R mishap occurred.
- 21-23 Lt Gen James E. Light, Fifteenth Air Force Commander visited Beale for an SR-71 orientation flight.
- 28-8 Dec The 1st Combat Evaluation Group (CEVG) inspected wing flying operations and assigned an overall excellent rating.

December

- 1-3 The 9th Wing deployed a U-2R and a KC-135Q to Laughlin AFB, Texas for a static display.
- 12 Lt Col Edward J. Gaven assumed command of the 349th Air Refueling Squadron as Lt Col Walter N. Schrecker was reassigned.
- 12 While on a Giant Clipper mission, an SR-71 air aborted to Carswell AFB, Tx. The wing deployed a tanker, crew and support personnel to recover the SR-71.
- 15 The wing held the third MARE of the quarter. The exercise simulated the midair collision of a B-52 Bomber and a KC-135 Tanker with resultant ground fires.

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December (cont'd)

- 18-19 Brig Gen John Stihl, Strategic Communications Division Commander, visited the 1883rd and 2156th Communications Squadrons.
- 22 Upon landing at Beale, a T-38 assigned to the 9SRW blew a tire causing minor damages.
- 27 An SR-71 on a training sortie diverted to Mather AFB, CA due to heavy fog at Beale. The wing dispatched a crew to return the plane to Beale.

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17 Jan	Col Richard L. Thompson became the deputy commander for maintenance.
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23-28 Feb	The 9th Win Commander and staff conducted a staff assistance visit to Detachment 2 at Osan AB, Korea.
28 Feb -2 Mar	The commander of the 9th Wing visited Detachment 1 at Kadena AB, Japan for staff assistance.

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